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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. OGW-0024

In re patent application of

TAKAOKA

Serial No. 09/767,961

Group Art Unit: 2795

Filed: January 24, 2001

Examiner: GOFF II, John L.

Title: METHOD FOR WRAPPING RUBBER STRIP AND WRAPPING APPARATUS

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following is in response to the Restriction Requirement dated May 13, 2002. The Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1-3 without traverse such claims being drawn to a method of wrapping a rubber strip around a forming drum.

In the Restriction Requirement, the Examiner has also required amendments to the claims as follows:

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5. (Amended) The apparatus for wrapping the rubber strip according to claim 4, further comprising a cutting device which cuts off the rubber strip within a clearance, said clearance being arranged between the forming drum and the guide roll when the arm member is contracted.

6. (Amended) The apparatus for wrapping the rubber strip according to claim 5, further comprising a press roll for pressing a cut end of said rubber strip against said forming drum provided at the vicinity of said guide roll.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the above amendments be entered prior to examination on the merits. A marked-up version of the claims is appended hereto.

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OFFICE OF PETITIONS

Applicants, reserve the right to file a divisional application directed to the subject matter of the non-elected claims.

In the event that any additional fees are required with respect to this paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 18-0013.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: February 11, 2003



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